

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church



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Senior Pastor, Rev. Denise Arnold
Pastor's hours: Tue. 10:30am-4pm & Thurs. 9:30am-2pm
Office Hours: Tue. & Thur. 9am-2pm



[Facebook.com/gloriadeilutheranchurch](https://www.facebook.com/gloriadeilutheranchurch)



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Gloria Dei Gazette

Loved by God to serve all

A Note from Pastor Denise

Happy New Year 2025! We made it! One quarter of the way through a new century.

It was not long ago that we were all wrapped up in worry about the 1999 computer conversion. All the computers could have crashed or something like that because they weren't programmed for the year 2000. Remember the Y2K? Well guess what? We are still here today with computers in hand.

The passing of time does cause us to pause and think about where we have been and where we are going. It gives us a chance to take on perspective. Maybe we set some goals and make plans?

I don't like resolutions because they always feel so ominous. I fret over making sure I do them exactly correctly. Pretty soon I find myself in bondage to my goal. So this year I thought it would be good focus on God's faithfulness and work on remembering God's presence throughout the whole year:

1 Chronicles 16:11-12 **Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually.**
12 Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles and the judgments he uttered,

One way to do this might be to join a bible study or prayer group. Thursday nights beginning January 9th at 5:00 pm we will watch "The Chosen" Season 3 followed by a discussion of the lessons. Thursday mornings at 10 we are praying. And Sunday's after worship Pastor Elten will lead us in a 45 minute bible study. Lots of opportunities to seek the Lord! Hope to see you there!

January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Fake Snow Day! 1:00-3:00 at Gloria Dei
5	6	7 Sit and Be Fit 10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall	8 Wisdom Keepers @ 12 pm. Bring a sack lunch	9 Prayer 10 am w/ Pastor Denise The Chosen Season 3 Bible Study begins 5:00 pm.	10	11 Men's Breakfast 8:30 in the Fellowship Hall
12 Council Meeting 8:00 am Bible Study w/ Elten after service	13	14 Sit and Be Fit 10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall	15	16 Prayer 10 am w/ Pastor Denise The Chosen Season 3 Bible Study begins 5:00 pm.	17	18
19 Bible Study w/ Elten after service	20	21 Sit and Be Fit 10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall	22	23 Prayer 10 am w/ Pastor Denise The Chosen Season 3 Bible Study begins 5:00 pm.	24	25
26 Annual Meeting after service Bible Study w/ Elten after service	27	28 Sit and Be Fit 10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall	29	30 Prayer 10 am w/ Pastor Denise The Chosen Season 3 Bible Study begins 5:00 pm.	31	

THE NEW YEAR HAS ARRIVED!

Why not make a New Year's resolution to learn more about your Bible in 2025? Here is a great way to get started. Plan to attend five, forty minute presentations on these Biblical topics:

- January 12 - What the Bible says about the Bible
- January 19 - What the Bible says about God
- January 26 - What the Bible says about us
- February 2 - What the Bible says about Jesus
- February 9 - What the Bible says about the Christian life



Gather in the church nave after Sunday worship and a brief coffee and cookie break (about 10:50-11:30 each Sunday). Bring your own Bible, no other preparation is necessary. Each presentation is stand-alone so come when you can.

Pastor Elten Zerby, presenter

2025 FISH Dates

May 28, 29, 30 - June 30 - July 1, 2 - August 11, 12, 13 - September 29, 30 -
October 1, 23, 24 - December 8, 9

The biggest need for our FISH days is Sanitary products and personal hygiene products. The \$1.25 store carries: large bottles of shampoo/conditioner mix; men's and women's deodorant; body wash and bars of soap.



Christmas Bazaar FISH Fundraiser Update

We had a very successful bazaar last Sunday, raising over \$900 for our FISH program. Congratulations to all who contributed by donating, baking, crafting and buying items for the event.



Sit and Be Fit

resumes Tuesday, January 7th at 10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.



Sit and Be Fit sessions are held on Tuesdays at 10:30 am, downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. This class is led by Cheryl Davison.

Remember in Prayer:

Ralph Moffett

George Bixby

Janice Ward

Stephanie Seely (of the Reichert
family)

The Pacific Islanders

Those fighting cancer

Marriage relationships

Those suffering from loss of
family members

Those struggling with financial
issues

Unspoken prayers

Do You Have a Receipt For Reimbursement From 2024?

Please turn in all receipts for
reimbursement for 2024 to Jackie
Erickson by January 5, 2024.
Thank you!



Kids Korner by Jackie Erickson

We had some fun times in December and learned about the journey to Bethlehem and how Joseph & Mary were feeling. Lots of good questions!

The kids did a great job singing "Oh Come All Ye Faithful" on December 8th. We didn't have much practice but I thought they did a great job.



Kids of Gloria Dei enjoying "TheStar"

We had large gingerbread cookie decorating, a craft and movie day on the 22nd. As you can see the cookies were loaded with sprinkles, our favorite. The movie was a hit and if you can watch it on Netflix "The Star" or I have it on DVD if you want to borrow it.

Pastor Denise and I got together in November and have a tentative plan for events in 2025. Watch in the bulletins & on the calendar for these fun times.



Impressive cookie decorating!!

January 3rd Friday 1pm to 3pm, we are having a snow day. There will be games, ice cream sundaes and snowball fun. This is for all kids & adults – come have a great time with our kids.

Jackie Erickson

January Birthdays

- 01 – Boyd Burns
- 03 – RJ Cruz
- 03 – Lincoln Verhasselt
- 05 – Dana Libby
- 15 – Melinda Gapen
- 17 – James Heideman
- 19 – Amanda Little
- 29 – Dave York



GLORIA DEI FULFILLS FAMILY PROMISE CHRISTMAS WISHES 2024

The family who was adopted for Christmas was a mom of 5. Four girls and one boy from the ages of 16 down to 4 years old. Mom said they were all so happy to have been loved by our congregation! Here is a message directly from her.

"I can't believe how amazing this felt, and all of the gifts were such a huge blessing to our family. The kids got most of their wish list, I mean, we were grateful for one or two things but.....This had me speechless, I mean beyond words! The Vans are a real treat in our family due to how much they cost. All the books and toys blew us away. Mostly to have the support that comes from the church and through this community filled our day with love and happiness. We were not able to do much for Christmas this year. These amazing church people allowed us to give our children a beautiful holiday to remember. Thank you so much from all of our hearts – from Mom and the kids!"

Thank you to our church family who went out of their way to fulfill all of the items requested. A very special thank you to Jocelyn, Pastor's Denise and Norm for organizing and wrapping all of the gifts.

Once again our church family has shared the love of giving through Jesus. This response from the family warms our hearts.

Deborah Burns
Coordinator



Gloria Dei Choir

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Gloria Dei Choir. I appreciate your talents, time and effort. A special thank you to Greg Price for all your help with running the sound!



Advent Activity Fun!

December was chock full of celebrating Christmas at Gloria Dei. We had a white elephant gift exchange, made beautiful centerpieces with Jaws, listened to the amazing Castle Rock Men's Ensemble, had a delicious Christmas Dinner, decorated cookies, and sang Christmas carols for some wonderful people.



Wishing you all a healthy, happy and blessed new year!

